

- 1 1. (Twice Amended) A method for permanent decorative enhancement of
- 2 a polyethylene surface of a molded polyethylene article which comprises:
- 3 (a) incorporating a decorative enhancement composition to said
- 4 polyethylene surface wherein said decorative enhancement
- 5 composition consists essentially of:
- 6 (1) a liquid carrier in an amount sufficient to provide the decorative
- 7 enhancement composition with a consistency and viscosity
- 8 necessary for application by liquid methods of application; and
- 9 (2) a first mixture consisting essentially of:
- 10 (A) a colorant in an amount sufficient to impart a [desired] surface
- 11 color; and
- 12 (B) a second mixture consisting essentially of:
- 13 (i) a binder to provide adhesion of the decorative enhancement
- 14 composition to said polyethylene surface; and
- 15 (ii) a particulate thermoplastic powder in an amount sufficient to
- 16 fuse into and form a permanent bond with the molded
- 17 polyethylene article; and
- 18 (b) heating said decorative enhancement composition and said molded
- 19 polyethylene article to produce a molded polyethylene article
- 20 having a permanently colored decoratively enhanced surface
- 21 characterized by said colorant on and in said polyethylene surface
- 22 of said molded polyethylene article.

1 2. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 39 wherein said liquid carrier
2 comprises 60 to 90 weight percent of said decorative enhancement composition [for
use in applying] in order to provide said decorative enhancement composition with a
4 consistency and viscosity suitable for application by spray methods.

1 46. (Amended) The method of Claim 44 wherein said particulate
2 thermoplastic powder comprises 70 to 30 weight percent of said second mixture and is
3 selected from the group consisting of polyethelene, polypropylene, and ethylene-vinyl
4 acetate co-polymers wherein said powder has a density from 0.88 to 0.97 and a particle
5 size no greater than 140 microns diameter.

1 47. (Amended) A method for permanent decorative enhancement of a

2 polyethylene surface of a molded polyethylene article, which method comprises the

3 steps of:

4 (a) incorporating a decorative enhancement composition to said

5 polyethylene surface wherein said decorative enhancement

6 composition consists essentially of:

7 (1) a liquid carrier that provides the decorative enhancement

8 composition with a consistency and viscosity necessary for

9 application by liquid methods of application; and

10 (2) a first mixture consisting essentially of:

11 (A) a colorant to impart a [desired] surface color; and

12 (B) a second mixture consisting essentially of:

13 (i) a binder to provide adhesion of the decorative

14 enhancement composition [with temporary

15 adherence] to said polyethylene surface; and

16 (ii) a particulate thermoplastic powder that is adapted

17 to fuse into and form a permanent bond with

18 the molded polyethylene article; and

19 (b) heating said decorative enhancement composition and said molded

20 polyethylene article to produce a molded polyethylene article

21 having a permanent decoratively enhanced surface characterized

22 by a colorant on and in said polyethylene surface of said molded

23 polyethylene article.

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1 55. (Amended) The method of Claim 53 wherein said particulate
2 thermoplastic powder comprises 70 to 30 weight percent of said second mixture and is
3 selected from the group consisting of polyethelene, polypropylene, and ethylene-vinyl
4 acetate co-polymers wherein said powder has a density from 0.88 to 0.97 and a particle
5 size no greater than 140 microns diameter.